

STCG TANK SUBGROUP MEETING

July 10, 1996

Welcome/Introductions/Overview of Meeting Agenda (Cathy Louie)

Cathy described the LDUA Test Facility tour that the Subgroup went on that morning. She asked the members to send her feedback on the tour.

Batty Carteret (WHC) met the group in the FMEF lobby and escorted us on the tour. The LDUA is a portable robotic arm designed for in-tank characterization and inspection, not retrieval. The high-resolution stereo end-effector we saw was designed for operation in a flammable gas environment. Next year, the HTI will develop sampling tools to be mounted on the end effector. We saw the LDUA moving around the simulated tank in the test facility, as well as the control room and the simulation model.

In September 1996, the LDUA will be deployed in Tank T-106 for its first hot test. It will be installed 4-5 feet from the tank wall for corrosion inspection and gamma surveys. In spring 1997, it will be deployed in Tank AX-104 to support the closure initiative. It will later be deployed in Tank C-106 for tank inspection after sluicing to see what waste remains in the tank.

Summary of FY97 PEG (John Appel)

John presented a summary of how well the TFA is responding to the tank technology needs submitted by the Subgroup. A copy of John's presentation is available upon request. Everyone in the TWRS Program that participated in developing the needs package was given an opportunity to review the PEG.

Only about half of Hanford's tank technology needs appear to be addressed either by the FY97 PEG or by TFA plans for FY98. The Subgroup needs to develop strategies for what should be done for the other needs that are not being met by TFA. Subgroup members questioned why Hanford has so little of the TFA budget when it clearly has the majority of the needs.

John LaFemina responded that only about 10% of the TFA budget is available in any year for new starts.

Tom Tebb asked when the TFA would be providing a formal response to the technology needs package that the Subgroup submitted. It was agreed that an annotated version of the table that John presented, modified to include TFA's comments, would be sufficient for this year.

Carl Hanson requested that in the future, before TFA sends out a call for proposals, they should have the technology need statement reviewed by the appropriate TWRS Program person to ensure that the statement is complete, accurate, and sufficiently detailed.

Tank Farm Technologies (Tom Trebb)

Tom distributed copies of the June 24 issue of the Hanford Reach, which contains a special section on tank technologies, including the LDUA.

Keystone Workshop (John LaFemina)

DOE/EM and DOE/ER sponsored a stakeholder workshop on June 27-28 in Richland to assist in developing a long-term research agenda for DOE's environmental management and restoration needs. The workshop built on existing stakeholder involvement at Hanford by inviting 30-40 representatives of the Hanford Advisory Board and the STCG. The workshop was organized and facilitated by the Keystone Center, a mediation and consensus-building organization. The workshop results will help DOE formulate a proactive research agenda for the development of the newly established Environmental Management Science Program (EMSP). It opened a dialogue among stakeholders on the necessary long-term research agenda for site cleanup.

John LaFemina explained that the EMSP grew out of the Galvin Commission report's criticism that there was no scientific/technical basis for cleanup decisions at the DOE sites. Congress gave DOE \$50M in a DOE/EM account to be managed by DOE/ER. 810 full proposals were received and are now being reviewed against DOE's high-priority technology needs. The FY97 call for proposals will be issued in September 1996. In addition to participating in the EMSP workshop activities, John stated that the STCG

should also help develop a strategy for focusing the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL) on the appropriate Hanford science needs.

National Closure Workshop (Craig West/Cathy Louie)

Craig West stated that the TFA has several closure initiatives and needs to coordinate among sites trying to develop tank closure criteria. Therefore, a National Closure Workshop is planned for October 8-10 in Atlanta. This workshop is intended for DOE and its regulators at the various sites. When commonalities among the sites have been identified and agendas become more organized, stakeholders will also be invited to participate. The first thing they must do is decide which issues can be worked at the national level (e.g., NRC classification of incidental waste).

STCG Communications Plan (Gary Ballew)

Gary distributed copies of the draft STCG Subgroup Communication Plan and requested that everyone send him comments by July 26. Call Linda Fassbender (372-4351) if you need a copy.

Tank Subgroup Calendar

In addition to the agenda items listed below, a brief update on the Hanford Technology Deployment Center will be provided at every meeting. Also, each month we should ask one TWRS program manager to present issues, needs, and/or problems they are facing.

August 14, 1996

- Brainstorming on tank science needs, starting from the strawman developed by John LaFemina and Mary Peterson
- Strategic investment plan for TFA (Marilyn Quadrel)
- Criteria and strategy for leak detection during retrieval (Deborah Iwatate)

- Subgroup self-assessment
- TFA response to Hanford tank technology needs

September 11, 1996

- Assess TWRS Program relative to tank technology needs, demonstrations, and implementation
- Encourage problem-owners to bring technology needs to the Subgroup
- Briefing on technology needs identified by the Privatization Phase I contract winners

October 9, 1996

- Start reviewing last year's technology needs priorities and determining if revisions are necessary

November 13, 1996

- Continue reviewing last year's technology needs priorities and making revisions as necessary

December 11, 1996

- Prioritized tank technology needs are due to the STCG Management Council

January 1997

- Management Council sends technology needs packages to the Focus Area Teams

Action Items

1. Get strawman science needs developed by John LaFemina and Mary Peterson for Subgroup to review. Develop framework for brainstorming long-term tank technology needs. (Facilitator)
2. Send comments on draft STCG Subgroup Communication Plan to Gary Ballew by July 26. (Everyone)

Meeting Attendees

John Appel (WHC)
Gary Ballew (ETP)
Paul Danielson (Nez Perce Tribe)
Linda Fassbender (PNNL)
Carl Hanson (WHC)
John Holbrook (PNNL)
John LaFemina (PNNL)
Cathy Louie (DOE-RL/TWRS)
J. Vincent Panesko (WHC)
Tom Tebb (Ecology)
Craig West (DOE-RL/WDD)

Feedback on This Meeting

How did you feel about the meeting (e.g., agenda topics, progress made, ability to express your views)? Please send suggestions for improvements or future agenda items to Linda Fassbender, and she will forward them to the Co-Chairs. Thanks.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 1996
1:00-5:00 p.m.
ISB-1 White Bluffs Room